

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01898 101046Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /109 W

----- 085669

R 100951Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1403

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1898

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: LIBYAN AMBASSADOR ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. DURING BRASILIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION ON SEPT 7, DCM SCOTES HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH LIBYAN AMBASSADOR AHMAD ABD AL-SALAM BEN KHAYAL CONCERNING CURRENT STATE OF US-LIBYAN RELATIONS. LATTER TOOK INITIATIVE TO ASK IF DCM HAD HEARD OF PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT MESSAGE TO COLONEL KHADDAFI. HE CONTINUED THAT THIS MESSAGE WAS "GOOD MOVE" ON PART OF USG. HE CONTINUED THAT HE HAS HEARD LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH USG BUT HAS NOT FOUND WAY TO DO SO. HE ADDED THAT IN THIS CONNECTION HE HAS HEARD THAT PRINCE FAHD IS PLAYING MEDIATING ROLE. LIBYAN AMBASSADOR WENT ON TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT SOME WAY COULD BE FOUND FOR RELATIONS TO IMPROVE WITHOUT BOTH SIDES FEELING THAT THEY HAD TO MAKE FIRST MOVE. HE NOTED THAT AT PRESENT TIME LIBYAN GOVERNMENT IS RECALLING MANY AMBASSADORS FOR CONSULATION AND REAPPOINTMENT AND MAYBE IT COULD BE WORKED OUT TO REAPPOINT SIMULTANEOUSLY AMBASSADORS IN BOTH WASHINGTON AND TRIPOLI IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS LIBYAN REORGANIZATION MOVE. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT USG MUST APPRECIATE THAT "OUR LEADER-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01898 101046Z

SHIP IS YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED" AND FOR THIS REASON

USG SHOULD BE "PATIENT" WITH LIBYANS. HE CONCLUDED THAT SHOULD USG DECIDE TO APPOINT NEW AMBASSADOR TO TRIPOLI HE SHOULD DEFINITELY BE AN ARABIST.

2. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR KHAYAL IS A TALL, GOOD-LOOKING, URBANE GENTLEMAN IN HIS MID-30S WHO HAS BEEN EXTREMELY FRIENDLY AND ACCESSIBLE. HIS ENGLISH IS GOOD BUT PREFERS TO SPEAK ARABIC. HE HAS FROM TIME TO TIME BEEN A USEFUL SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS. WE BELIEVE COMMENTS ABOVE WERE MADE OUT OF SINCERE DESIRE TO SEE IMPROVEMENT IN US-LIBYAN RELATIONS.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DAMASC01898
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740251-0615
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740961/aaaabzdx.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN AMBASSADOR ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, US, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005